# Exchange Information Sheet 2015-16



## About UCD

University College Dublin is Ireland's largest and most richly diversified university.  It provides a broad range of courses grouped into seven Colleges: Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine, Arts & Celtic Studies, Business & Law, Engineering & Architecture, Health Sciences, Human Sciences and Science.

UCD traces its origins to the Catholic University of Ireland founded in 1854 by Cardinal John Henry Newman, author of the celebrated 'The Idea of a University'. Today UCD is a vibrant, modern university of approximately 25,000 students situated on a spacious and leafy campus some 5km to the south of Dublin city centre.

Further information on UCD is available at: www.ucd.ie

## About Dublin

Located on the east coast of Ireland, Dublin began as a Viking settlement founded over one thousand years ago.  In the 21st century, with a population of over one million people, Dublin is the thriving capital of the Republic of Ireland and is the centre of the political, diplomatic, administrative and commercial life of the country.

Famous for its literary tradition, Ireland's capital has been home to writers from Jonathan Swift to William Butler Yeats and James Joyce. A visit to Dublin allows you to explore both the historical and the modern, from castles and churches to cafés and clubs.

Further information on Dublin is available at: www.visitdublin.com

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## Coordinator for incoming students

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## Useful websites

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| UCD homepage | www.ucd.ie |
| UCD International | www.ucd.ie/international/exchange-programmes |
| International Student Handbook | www.ucd.ie/international/study-at-ucd-global/coming-to-ireland/international-student-handbook/ |
| Online course catalogue | www.ucd.ie/students/course_search.htm |
| Term dates | www.ucd.ie/students/keydates.htm |
| Residences | www.ucd.ie/residences |

## Academic calendar 2015/16

**Semester 1**
Orientation: week beginning Tuesday 1 September 2015
Teaching term: 7 September to 27 November 2015
Revision: 30 November to 6 December 2015
Exams: 7 December 2015 to 18 December 2015

**Semester 2**
Orientation: week beginning Monday 18 January 2016
Teaching term: 25 January to 29 April 2016 (two week break March 14$^{th}$ to 27$^{th}$)
Revision: 3 May April to 8 May 2016
Exams: 9 to 21 May 2016

**Nomination deadlines**

September start (semester one / full year): 1 May 2015

January start (semester two): 1 October 2015

Please send nominations in the requested Excel attachment by email to exchanges@ucd.ie including the following information for each student:

1. Name
2. Subject area
3. E-mail address
4. Duration of studies.

## Application information

Students must complete the online application by the dates below. Please forward the attached application instructions to your nominated students.

**Application deadlines**

September start (semester one / full year): 15 May 2015

January start (semester two): 15 October 2015

**Supporting documents**

The following should be uploaded as supporting documents to the online application:

➢ Official transcript
➢ Students coming from a non-English speaking university must also upload proof of English language proficiency. I.e., TOEFL (PBT 577 / CBT 227 / IBT 90) or IELTS 6.5.

## Course information

UCD uses the European Credit Transfer System. A full course load is 30 credits per semester. At undergraduate level each module is worth 5 credits and students take six modules per semester.

Exchange students in UCD can take less than six modules per semester if they have the permission of their home university but they must take a minimum of four modules per semester in order to be considered full-time.

**Language of instruction** English

**Course selection and registration**

A list of courses offered in UCD is available at **www.ucd.ie/students/course_search.htm**

Students must return a course registration form prior to arrival. Students arriving in September will receive this by email in August and students arriving in January will receive the form by email in November. The International Office registers students for their chosen courses depending on capacity, timetabling and prerequisites. Students have a two week add/drop period from the first day of classes to make changes to their course registration.

**Language courses**
Students can take one 5-credit English as a foreign language module per semester.

## *Accommodation*

After students have been accepted to UCD, the International Office e-mails them accommodation application forms and instructions on how to apply.   Further information on on-campus accommodation in UCD is available at: www.ucd.ie/residences

Please note that on-campus accommodation is not guaranteed.

UCD Residences operate the UCD Accommodation Pad which offers a variety of off-campus housing options for UCD students. Further information is available at:
http://www.ucdaccommodationpad.ie/Accommodation

## *Immigration Requirements (student visa, work & health insurance)*

**Student visas**
Students with citizenship of countries listed in the appendix entitled *List of Countries Whose Passport Holders Do Not Require Visas to Enter Ireland* on page 83 of the International Student Handbook (available here http://www.ucd.ie/international/study-at-ucd-global/coming-to-ireland/international-student-handbook/) do not require a student visa to enter Ireland but must register with immigration after arrival in Dublin.

Students with citizenship of a country **not** listed on the appendix entitled *List of Countries Whose Passport Holders Do Not Require Visas to Enter Ireland* on page 83 of the International Student Handbook (available here http://www.ucd.ie/international/study-at-ucd-global/coming-to-ireland/international-student-handbook/)  in the International Student Handbook must contact their local Irish embassy for information about visa application

All students who enter Ireland on a non-EU/EEA passport, and who remain in Ireland for longer than 90 days must register with immigration. Information on registration with immigration is available on pages 19-21 in the International Student Handbook and will be further explained at orientation. Please note that at the time of writing the fee to register with immigration is €300.

**Work**
Exchange students who are non-EU citizens are not permitted to work in Ireland if they study at UCD for one semester. Full-year exchange students who are non-EU citizens can work up to 20 hours per week part-time during term-time and full-time during the university holidays either on or off -campus

**Health Insurance**
Non-EU students are advised to obtain private health insurance which covers them during their stay in Ireland.  UCD does not arrange health insurance for students.  Students can purchase insurance in their home country but will need to ensure that it is valid in Ireland and in any other countries to which they plan to travel.

Basic medical expenses insurance is available for approximately €120 from Odon Insurance Brokers. This insurance policy will satisfy the visa requirement for private health insurance and can be obtained before students arrive in Ireland.  For more information on this insurance, please visit: www.odon.ie/ucd

Health insurance can also be purchased from one of Ireland's four private health insurance providers:

- VHI: http://www.vhi.ie
- Laya Heathcare: http://www.layahealthcare.ie/
- Aviva: http://www.aviva.ie/online/health/
- GloHealth: https://www.glohealth.ie/

Further information on health insurance is available in the International Student Handbook.

## Getting from Dublin Airport to UCD

Aircoach, a private bus services, operates a regular service from Dublin Airport to UCD at a cost of €10.00 single/€16.00 return.  Further information is available at: www.aircoach.ie

## Cost of living estimates

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| **Estimated total cost of living per month** | €1,440 |
| **University accommodation** | On-campus accommodation must be paid in full at the start of each semester but works out at approximately €565 per month for the undergraduate residences. |
| **Private accommodation** | €550 per month for own room in shared house |
| **Heat and Electricity** | €50 per month for own room in shared house |
| **Food/Meals** | €350 per month self-catering |
| **Local transportation** | €126 student monthly commuter ticket |
| **Academic expenses** | €100 per month |
| **Personal expenses** | €250 per month |